

Message Text

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TAGS: AORG, UN, EGEN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: UN BUDGET - 17TH CPC - ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

REF: USUN 1450

1. IN COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF E/AC.51/80/ADD.4 USREP MAY
REFER TO THE LACK OF DATA NECESSARY FOR PROPER EVALUATION.
THROUGHOUT THE DOCUMENT ARE VALUE JUDGMENTS THAT ARE NOT
SUPPORTED BY FACTS, JUDGMENTS THAT ARE THE PROPER FUNCTION
OF CPC.

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2. COMMENTS ON SUBPROGRAMS FOLLOW:

A. GEMS: THIS IS ONE OF THE BASIC PROGRAMS OF UNEP. THE
UNITED STATES ATTACHES THE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO IT. THE
CAPSULE DESCRIPTION IN PARA 19 OF THE CONCEPT OF GEMS IS
GENERALLY ACCURATE AS IS THE EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT OF

GEMS OUTPUT IN PART C, PARAS 30 THROUGH 36. IN PARTICULAR, U.S. ENVIRONMENTALISTS WOULD PROBABLY AGREE WITH THE JUDGMENT IN PARA 35 THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF GEMS MEASURED AGAINST THE HOPES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE PROGRAM FALLS SHORT, BUT THAT AN IMPORTANT BEGINNING HAS BEEN MADE AND THE FOUNDATION HAS BEEN LAID.

B. OCEANS: THIS IS A DISCUSSION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAM WHICH, OF COURSE, IS THE SHOW PIECE OF THE UNEP ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE. THE DISCUSSION IN SECTION D IN PARTICULAR IS AN EXCELLENT DEVELOPMENT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROJECT. THE METHODOLOGY USED IN DEVELOPING THIS PROJECT AND ITS IMMEDIATE IMPACT (SEE FOR EXAMPLE PARA 55) SHOULD PERHAPS DESERVE CLOSE STUDY AS PROVIDING MODELS FOR SIMILAR PROJECTS ELSEWHERE. IN SHORT, THIS IS THE BEST EXAMPLE SO FAR OF UNEP'S MOBILIZING THE RESOURCES OF THE UN SYSTEM AND THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION CONCERNED IN DEVELOPING A COORDINATED PLAN FOR TACKLING A SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITION.

C. ARID AND SEMI-ARID LANDS ECOSYSTEMS: AS POINTED OUT IN SECTION B, IT IS HARD AT THIS STAGE TO EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF THIS PROGRAM. THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE CPC WILL, NO DOUBT, HAVE LITTLE DIFFICULTY ENDORSING THE JUDGMENT IN PARA 75 THAT IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS ACHIEVEMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES IN THIS AREA QUOTE WILL DEPEND ON THE DECISIONS AND ACTIONS OF THE STATES CONCERNED. UNQUOTE AT THIS STAGE THE JUDGMENT IN PARA 77 IS PROBABLY ACCURATE.

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D. NATURAL DISASTERS: IT IS A MYSTERY WHY THIS PARTICULAR SUB-PROGRAM WAS CHOSEN FOR QUOTE IN DEPTH UNQUOTE TREATMENT AT THIS STAGE, SINCE UNEP'S ROLE SO FAR HAS BEEN A VERY MINOR ONE AND ANY REAL PROGRESS IS NOT APPARENT. THIS SEEMS TO BE THE JUDGMENT OF THE AUTHOR OF THIS SECTION.

3. DESPITE ITS SHORTCOMINGS, ESPECIALLY THE CURSORY TREATMENT IN PARA 106, THE ECE REPORT IS THE MOST RESPONSIVE TO CPC OF THE FOUR REGIONAL COMMISSION REPORTS. THE ECE MAY BE COMMENDED FOR A GOOD START IN ITS APPROACH TO ITS EVALUATION REPORT AND USREP MAY INDICATE EXPECTATION THAT IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE NOTED IN FUTURE REPORTS. WITH RESPECT TO THE ECLA REPORT, IT IS NOT CLEAR THAT THE

RESULTS NOTED IN PARA 116 ARE DUE TO THE PROJECTS DESCRIBED IN PARA 112.

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Message Attributes

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